

## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The ten properties recorded for this survey illustrate various types of mass-produced suburban housing that proliferated throughout Delaware from the 1910s to the early post World War II period. None, however, possess qualities of architectural design, use of materials, or historical associations to set them apart as particularly noteworthy or unusual examples of their kind. Many have been altered in recent years, evidencing the effects of commercial expansion into a heretofore essentially residential neighborhood. Such alterations, as well as instances of mid-to-late twentieth century infill, have effectively removed the area's ability to constitute a significant example of suburbanization in the Dover vicinity. In summary, none of the ten properties inventoried in association with proposed improvements to Governors Avenue meet National Register Criteria for Eligibility.

The research and field survey program undertaken for this study have been sufficient to accomplish the stated objective of identifying historic properties within the area of potential effect of proposed improvements on Governors Avenue.

Direct threats to resources characterizing the themes of Settlement Patterns and Demographic Change, and Architecture, for the period of Urbanization and Early Suburbanization 1880-1940±, take the form of increased suburban development, continued loss of agricultural land, transportation improvements, and the economic decline of central business districts. Due to the continued trend of converting residential dwellings for commercial uses, in this part of East Dover Hundred, it is of the utmost importance to continue to identify, survey, and preserve resources which will provide a greater understanding of the suburbanization of the Dover vicinity.

Very little cultural resource survey documentation currently exists for early twentieth century suburban resources. Although this study of resources on Governors Avenue contributes in a small way toward the expansion of the information base concerning this topic, a more fully developed historic context of early twentieth century suburban residential development in Kent County as a whole, with evaluation criteria, would be a useful tool in the completion of future architectural investigations in this area of Delaware.